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LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY OFFICE**PUBLIC NOTICE NO. MT-15-37**
July 31, 2015PURPOSE OF PUBLIC NOTICE

The purpose of this notice is to state the Department's intention to issue a wastewater discharge permit to the facility listed in this notice and hold a public hearing on the issuance of this permit. This permit is issued by the Department under the authority of 75-5-402, Montana Code Annotated (MCA); the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.30.1301 *et seq.*, Montana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MPDES); and Sections 402 and 303 of the federal Clean Water Act. The Water Protection Bureau has prepared a draft permit for the facility listed below. Copies of the draft permit, fact sheet, and environmental assessment are available upon request from the Water Protection Bureau address or on the Department's website www.deq.mt.gov.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

APPLICANT NAME: RC Resources, Inc.
7 Rock Creek Road
P.O. Box 1488
Noxon, MT 59853

FACILITY NAME: Rock Creek Mine

FACILITY LOCATION: Township 27N, Range 32W, Sections 26, 27, 34, and 35; and Township 26N, Range 32W, Sections 3, 10, 15, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 32, and 33; Sanders County

RECEIVING WATERS: Outfall 003: Unnamed Tributary to Miller Gulch
Outfall 004: Rock Creek
Outfall 006: Unnamed Tributary to West Fork Rock Creek
Outfall 007: Unnamed Tributary to West Fork Rock Creek

PERMIT NUMBER: MT0030287

The Department proposes to renew the Rock Creek Mine MPDES Permit. RC Resources, Inc. has proposed to construct and operate an underground copper and silver mine located approximately 5 miles northeast of Noxon, Montana, on the southern flanks of the Cabinet Mountains in Sanders County. This renewal only considers industrial storm water discharge from the facility, and includes effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and Best Management Practices. In addition, the permit requires the permittee to develop and maintain a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan. The draft permit incorporates technology-based and water quality-based effluent limits and ensures the limits do not cause degradation of high quality waters.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comments are invited ANYTIME PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS September 2, 2015. Comments may be directed to the DEQ Permitting & Compliance Division, Water Protection Bureau, PO Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620. All comments received or postmarked PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS September 2, 2015 will be considered in the formulation of final determinations to be imposed on the permits. If you wish to comment electronically, you may e-mail the Department at DEQWPBPublicComments@mt.gov.

A public hearing will be held on the draft wastewater discharge permit, the fact sheet, environmental assessment, and the Department's tentative determination on September 1, 2015, 5 – 7:30 P.M., at Noxon School located at 300 Noxon Avenue, Noxon, MT.

The Department will respond to all substantive comments and issue a final decision within sixty days of this notice or as soon as possible thereafter. Additional information may be obtained upon request by calling (406) 444-3080 or by writing to the aforementioned address. The administrative record, including the permit application and other pertinent information, is maintained at the Water Protection Bureau office in Helena and is available for review during business hours.

The State of Montana makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's ability to participate in state government. Persons needing an accommodation must notify Jenna Stamper no later than **August 15, 2015**, to allow adequate time to make needed arrangements. You can call Jenna at 444-3080 or write to her at the address noted to make your request known.

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